

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2010, Applicants amend their application and request reconsideration. In this Amendment claims 3 and 12 are cancelled leaving claims 1, 2, 4-11, 13, and 14 pending.

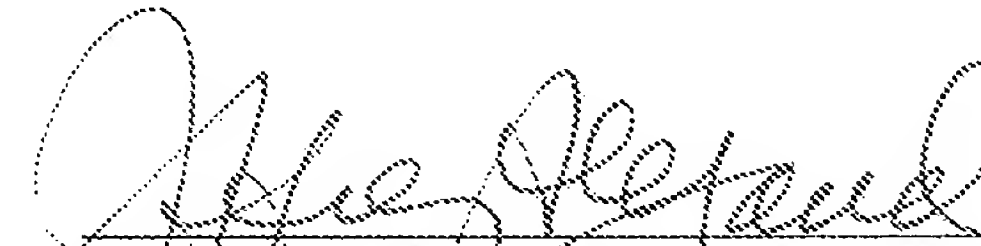
Claim 1, the sole pending independent claim and, therefore, by definition, a generic claim, is amended to explain in greater detail the claimed invention. Further description concerning the electrically insulating material and its characteristics are supplied in the Amendment. Product-by-process claims 3 and 12 are cancelled and claims 4 and 13 are amended to be consistent with amended claim 1 and the cancellation of claims 3 and 12. Other minor amendments of a formality nature are also made.

The foregoing amendment responds, in part, to the complex species election requirement imposed in the Office Action of December 23, 2010. The present patent application is a national phase of an international patent application; therefore, as explained in the Office Action, certain special considerations apply with respect to division of the claims of the present patent application. Taking into account the Examiner's comments, the amendments made here establish a single inventive concept, i.e., technical feature. For that reason, Applicants traverse the species election requirement and request its withdrawal with respect to the claims submitted here.

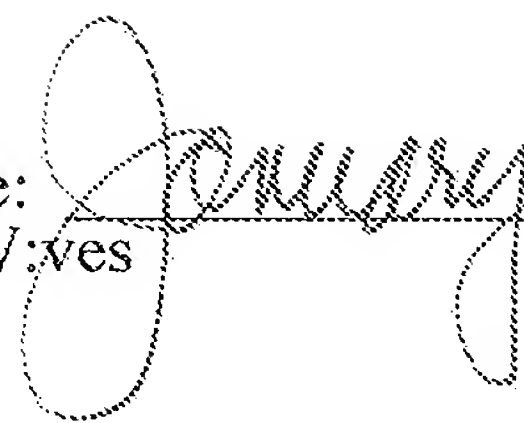
Should the Examiner not withdraw the species election requirement and examine all claims now pending, then Applicants elect the alleged Species 1, which encompasses at least claims 1, 2, 4-7, 11, 13, and 14. The subject matter of these claims is clearly encompassed in and supported by the description in the patent application concerning the First Embodiment. Accordingly, at least those claims should be initially examined. Upon the allowance of the generic claim 1, Applicants intend to rejoin to the prosecution, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.141, claims 8-10.

Prompt and favorable examination of at least claims 1, 2, 4-7, 11, 13, and 14 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


Jeffrey A. Wyand, Reg. No. 29,458
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER
700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005-3960
(202) 737-6770 (telephone)
(202) 737-6776 (facsimile)

Date:
JAW:ves

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